

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 119668 TOSEC 010213

51

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66602

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:PKJOHNSON

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:PKJOHNSON

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION: S/S, NSC/E

----- 017612

O 221637Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119668 TOSEC 010213

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, BANGKOK, MANILA, UDORN,  
CANBERRA, MAY 22, FROM VIENTIANE RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3613

CANBERRA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

DEPT PASS SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, LA

SUBJ: E&E US PRESENCE IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 3571

1. TWO EMPLOYEES AND 26 DEPENDENTS HAVE DEPARTED TODAY.  
CURRENT FIGURES FOR OFFICIAL AMERICANS STILL IN VIENTIANE ARE  
378 EMPLOYEES AND 515 DEPENDENTS.

2. THE SCHEDULED FLIGHT OF THE CHARTERED BIRD AIR DC-6 FOR  
MAY 23 MORNING DEPARTURE HAS HAD TO BE CANCELLED. EFFORTS TO  
PROCESS CLEARANCE FOR THIS FLIGHT WERE INTERRUPTED THIS MORNING  
WHEN WE WERE INFORMED THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE PURSUED THROUGH  
DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. WE HAVE IN THE MEANTIME BEEN ABLE TO WORK  
OUT ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN RAL CHARTER WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 119668 TOSEC 010213

DEPART FRIDAY AFTERNOON (MAY 23) AND PROSPECTS FOR THIS DEPARTURE

LOOK GOOD AT THIS POINT. WE HOPEFULLY WILL BE ABLE TO REPEAT THIS IF THE FIRST FLIGHT WORKS OUT. BIRD AIR CHARTER IS BEING HELD IN RESERVE; IN THE EVENT DIFFICULTIES DO DEVELOPMENT WITH RAL ARRANGEMENTS, WE WILL PROCEED WITH A REQUEST FOR DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCES.

4. FOR PAST TWO WEEKS, DIFFICULTIES BEING ENCOUNTERED WITH PROCESSING PEOPLE AND FREIGHT HAVE BEEN INNUMERABLE. INITIALLY PERSONNEL WERE VERY RELUCTANT TO MOVE UNTIL ASSURED THAT EFFECTS WERE PACKED AND ON THE WAY. PERSONNEL READY TO DEPART HAVE HAD A HIGH INCIDENCE OF EXPIRED VISAS, INADEQUATE DOCUMENTATION FOR NEWLY ACQUIRED DEPENDENTS, ETC., DESPITE CONSTANT REMINDERS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS TO KEEP SUCH DOCUMENTATION CURRENT. WE HAVE HAD ALL PACKERS IN THE CITY FULLY OCCUPIED WITH US MISSION JOBS SINCE THIS SITUATION AROSE. THEY HAVE IMPORTED ADDITIONAL WORKS CREWS FROM THAILAND AND ARE AND HAVE BEEN WORKING SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. THE THAILAND TRUCKING MONOPOLY WHICH HANDLES OUTGOING SHIPMENTS HAS BEEN SLOW IN PROVIDING TRUCKS BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND THEY ARE CURRENTLY DIVERTING MUCH OF THEIR EQUIPMENT TO THE U.S. MILITARY CONTRACT IN THAILAND. FOUR TRUCKS THAT WERE DIVERTED TO OUR USE WERE IMPOUNDED BY THE PATHET LAO ON MAY 19. EFFORTS TO SECURE RELEASE ARE STILL UNDERWAY AND THE TRUCKING COMPANY HAS REFUSED TO PROVIDE ANY FURTHER TRUCKS UNTIL THE IMPOUNDED TRUCKS ARE RELEASED AND THEY HAVE ASSURANCES OF THE SAFETY OF THEIR EQUIPMENT. LOCAL TRUCKERS MOVING LIFT VANS HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO ANTI-AMERICAN HARRASSMENT AND ARE REFUSING TO ACCEPT FURTHER JOBS INVOLVING THE SHIPMENT OF AMERICAN PROPERTY. A LARGE AIRFREIGHT SHIPMENT SCHEDULED TO GO OUT ON AN EXTRA FLIGHT OF THAI AIRWAYS MAY 21 WAS CANCELLED AT THE LAST MINUTE WHEN THE THAI AMBASSADOR COMMANDEERED THE PLANE FOR HIS OFFICIAL USE. THESE INCIDENTS ARE CITED TO GIVE THE DEPARTMENT SOME INDICATION OF THE DIFFICULTIES CONFRONTING THE MISSION. WE ARE TRYING TO RESOLVE THESE PROBLEMS AS QUICKLY AS THEY TURN UP, BUT UNFORTUNATELY IN THE PRESENT ATMOSPHERE IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO GET THE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF LAO OFFICIALS WHICH IS NEEDED. WE ARE CONTINUING TO MOVE AHEAD ON THIS AS HARD AS WE CAN. CHAPMAN UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC 1023  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisoob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE119668  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:PKJOHNSON  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750180-0096  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750526/aaaaaxma.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 VIENTIANE 3571  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** E&E US PRESENCE IN LAOS  
**TAGS:** AEMR, LA  
**To:** SECRETARY  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006